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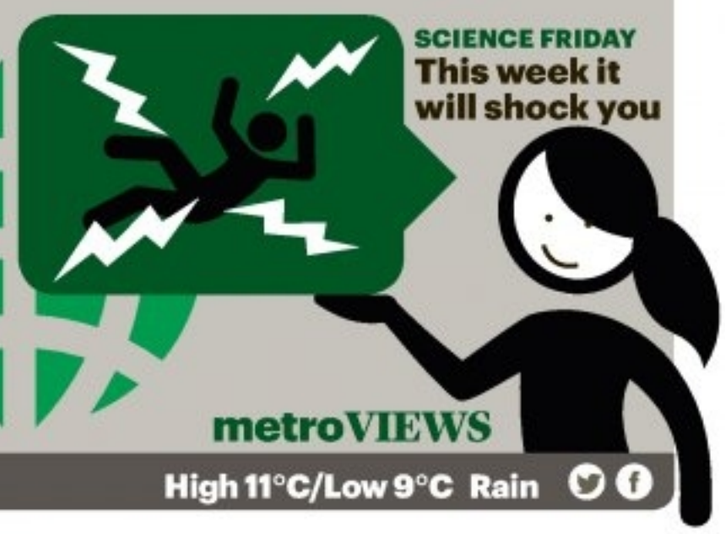

JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

BEWARE, DOG OWNERS

Vancouver's got a K-9 licensing problem

metroNEWS

Wanted: New operators for street market

DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE

City put out call after co-ordinators resigned

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

"For Sale" signs are up at the Downtown Eastside (DTES) Street Market, but it's not second-hand goods that are being hawked.

The entire operation has been put on the block as the City of Vancouver seeks two non-profit organizations to take control of the low-barrier markets following the sudden resignations of its original co-ordinators, Roland Clarke and Jacek Lorek, in late January.

Current DTES Street Market Society board member Sarah Blyth, a former city parks board commissioner, told Metro a series of escalating disputes between the markets' founders and city staff reached a boiling point earlier this year and led to a change of leadership.

"It got to the point where you can't move forward anymore because all the good relationships (with the city) had been lost," Blyth said. "The co-ordinators took it a bit too far. They were to blame and because of that they made the decision to resign."

There are few details that provide much insight into the insurmountable breakdown in trust between Clarke, Lorek and the city.

However, an email Clarke sent the city (CC'd to media) Jan. 23 offers a peek.

Clarke wrote the level of funding offered by the city for 2016 was "completely inadequate" and threatened to cancel the Sunday market at Pigeon Park that week.

> **The co-ordinators took it a bit too far. They were to blame.**
> Sarah Blyth

He resigned the next week, and the city later awarded the Portland Hotel Society a temporary service contract to assume responsibility for the DTES street markets in the short term.

Mary Clare Zak, managing director of social policy and projects at the City of Vancouver, told Metro on Thursday she wasn't comfortable discussing the issues, if any, city staff had with Clarke and Lorek specifically.

She said the city maintains a good relationship with the society's board but admitted the city "decided to take some steps" to ensure public funds were being looked after and for the markets to continue.

So late last month, the city put out a request for expressions of interest and is seeking a new organization, or two, to operate the markets.

The city contributes $200,000 annually to the markets (at 62 E. Hastings, 501 Powell and Pigeon Park on Sundays).

"It is a benefit to the community," said Zak. "It provides people with low-barrier employment opportunities and has been recognized by senior levels of government as filling a niche that doesn't exist anywhere else. In the big picture, as we work through a planning process for the Downtown Eastside, we need to recognize and acknowledge the informal economy."

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

European Union considering 'large-scale' migrant deportation scheme. **World**

Sadhu Johnston named city hall's top manager

POLITICS

Mayor wants fresh approach to municipal challenges

The City of Vancouver chose a familiar face to be its new city manager after a four-month search to fill the top job.

Sadhu Johnston, former deputy city manager, has been promoted to city manager in charge of 7,500 employees and a $1.2-billion operating budget, the city announced in a news release Thursday.

Johnston has served as acting city manager since his former boss, Penny Ballem, was fired in September with $556,000 in severance pay. At the time, Mayor Gregor Robertson terminated Ballem because the city wanted a "fresh approach as we look to tackle some of the city's toughest challenges."

Johnston, who worked directly for Ballem since the city hired him in 2009, told Metro he learned a lot from her and that there won't be a "huge shift" in the city's direction; rather, he said he has a different tone than his predecessor.

"I think probably the fresh approach is just a different leadership style," he said. "I would consider myself a more collaborative leader and will really work to empower the team."

Vancouver City Hall will see former deputy city manager Sadhu Johnston assume the role of the city's top bureaucrat. ERIC DREGER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Johnston's annual salary will start at $316,000 — Ballem was the highest paid city employee with a salary of $334,671 in 2014 — and his contract includes annual performance reviews with the mayor. Ballem's contract did not include annual reviews.

> I would consider myself a more collaborative leader and will really work to empower the team.
>
> Sadhu Johnston

Johnston will aim to improve transparency and include the public in the planning process. He's already had a discussion on how to improve the Freedom of Information process with local journalist and FOI expert Bob Mackin.

Sadhu Johnston CONTRIBUTED

"I do think there's been a sense of — and it's not a Penny issue — there's been a sense that the city has something to hide, and we don't," he said. "We're working really hard to do the best we can for this community."

Johnston has been very active in the environmental file in Vancouver and was previously in charge of the environmental initiatives for the City of Chicago. He said his top goal is to apply the success of the greenest city goals — the rigorous metrics and reporting standards have earned accolades — to affordability and homelessness.

"I think those challenges are plaguing are city, they're making it really hard to keep some amazing people living here," he said. "I'd like to be a part of upping our game there."

Johnston's contract will be posted online.

IN BRIEF

Teen's ex-boyfriend pleads guilty to murder

The former boyfriend of a student murdered at a university campus in Surrey has pleaded guilty to second-degree murder.

Twenty-four-year-old Gurjinder Dhaliwal was originally charged with first-degree murder in the death of Maple Batalia.

The 19-year-old aspiring actress and model was gunned down in a parking lot at Simon Fraser University after a late-night study session in September 2012.

Dhaliwal is expected to be sentenced Monday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Few men aware of HIV prevention drug: Survey

Few gay and bisexual men in Vancouver are aware of a new preventative HIV drug and even fewer can afford access to it, according to a new study.

On Thursday, The BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS published the results of a survey of gay, bisexual and other men, and found that only 20.9 per cent of HIV-negative men and 26.5 per cent of HIV-positive men know about pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for the virus.

The treatment has proven to be an effective prevention tool, according to the centre, and the drug Truvada got Health Canada approval last month and is now available to the public.

Treatment can cost up to $1,000 a month.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Throw city a bone and license your pets, dog owners urged

ANIMAL SERVICES

Only one in seven canines in Vancouver are registered

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

When Tamaki Kano picked up her rescued mutt Stanley from a shelter nearly three years ago, she didn't hesitate in getting the dog licensed right away.

As soon as Stanley was in her care, the Vancouver resident said she paid a $41 fee to the city, which she renews annually, and attached the licence tag to Stanley's collar.

"I'm a rule follower," she told Metro. "I registered my dog only because I never thought not to."

While that mentality might seem like the norm to some dog owners like Kano, the real rate of pet licensing in Vancouver paints a rough picture.

Only about 20,000 dogs are licensed in the city, according to Vancouver Animal Services, despite estimates that up to 145,000 pooches live within the city.

Under Vancouver's animal control bylaw, anyone who owns a dog older than three months is required to licence the animal and pay an annual fee of $41. Still, many dog owners in Vancouver don't seem willing to throw the city a bone and buy in.

> **Vancouver's rate of licensing is 50 per cent below the national average.** Steve Simmonds

Vancouver resident Tamaki Kano licensed her dog Stanley as soon as she took him home, but not all owners are so law abiding. Only about 20,000 dogs living in Vancouver are licensed, according to animal services. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

That makes planning for pet-related amenities, like off-leash parks, a challenging task for city planners, said Steve Simmonds, the city's animal services manager.

"Vancouver's rate of licensing is 50 per cent below the national average," said Simmonds. "If we know that there's 145,000 dogs in the city, imagine how the landscape of off-leash areas might change."

In November, the city of Vancouver issued a request for proposals for a strategy to make improvements to the city's off-leash dog parks.

Without accurate data, however, on the number and location of dogs in Vancouver, Simmonds said developing that strategy is difficult.

It's possible that even the city's estimate that 145,000 dogs could be living here is inaccurate, added John Gray, assistant manager of animal services.

"Maybe we're totally out of line," he said. "We just don't know."

It's unclear why Vancouver's dog owners are less likely to license their pets. A recent online survey carried out by animal services suggests a variety of reasons, from a lack of information about the benefits of dog licensing to a belief that it's not legally required.

Steve Simmonds, manager of animal services for the city, says not knowing how many dogs live in Vancouver makes it difficult to plan for off-leash parks. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

"Some people just think it's a tax grab," said Gray.

Despite efforts by animal services to improve the rate, allowing dog owners to apply for and renew the licence online — a process that takes only a few minutes — the number has not significantly increased.

Meanwhile, Simmonds said animal control is trying to focus on educating the public about the value of dog licences.

If all 145,000 of the estimated dogs living in Vancouver were licensed, the city could receive an additional $5.1 million in revenue. That would be less of a drain on all taxpayers, not just those with furry friends.

Simmonds said licensing helps animal services reunite between 700 and 1,000 lost dogs to their owners every year. Much of the revenue collected from licensing goes toward providing veterinary care for dogs that end up at the shelter.

If more revenue were available, that funding could be allocated toward more amenities and improved services for dogs.

Simmonds said he's still surprised that more people don't license their pets, especially considering so many Vancouverites seem to love dogs.

He said most dogs at the shelter don't spend more than three to five days before they find a new home.

"That tells you that Vancouver citizens care about animals and they want animals in their lives," he said. "But with that comes the responsibility of licensing and understand what the regulations are in their respective communities."

145,000

The number of dogs Vancouver Animal Services estimates live within the city.

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VANCOUVERING

with icons by **Danielle Vallée** from the noun project

Reinventing the eco-friendly wheel

On top of being a mecca for cyclists, Vancouver is arguably the car-sharing capital of the world – and a local startup is gaining speed on plans to merge those concepts into a new ride-sharing option.

CAFÉ POLITICS **GREENER RIDE-SHARES**

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

VeloMetro had the chance to show off its vehicle called a Veemo – a three-wheeled, battery-powered bike-slash-car that you pedal with electric assist – to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the national media, who were in town to talk climate change this week.

Trudeau was 20 minutes late to a media event, so VeloMetro co-founder and CEO John Stonier got to show off his company's creation, which is vying to become a new bike-slash-car-sharing option, to reporters from around the country.

"You can't buy those types of opportunities," Stonier joked in an interview with Metro.

But he's serious when it comes to bringing to life the new, climate-friendly transportation concept with a goal of making cities more livable. Stonier and three others, all with a background in electric cars, created the business as a way to get from point A to point B without needing a gasoline-powered car or getting too sweaty.

"We set out with a goal to bring more people to electric vehicles… but even electric cars are massively overbuilt for the task of bringing one person from one side of the city to another," Stonier said.

The vehicle wouldn't have been possible five years ago, but technology has advanced enough to make the Veemo commercially viable, Stonier said.

Veemos fit only one person and are intended for short trips in the urban core. When their batteries run out, the system will alert a technician, who will go and swap the battery.

Veemos are covered to protect people from the rain and move quickly with light pedaling – and yes, the pedals mean they can use bike lanes – for what Stonier calls a "premium cycling experience."

"Our vehicles take away all the downsides of cycling," he said, noting they appeal to drivers and non-drivers because they will not require a driver's licence.

The service will be accessed through smartphone and priced at 30 per cent less than car-sharing companies such as Evo and car2go. It will also compete with the bike-share program the City of Vancouver promises to deliver by June 2016.

The company will launch a small trial with a handful of vehicles at the University of British Columbia this summer and hopes to expand based on its success.

Stonier sees Vancouver as the perfect place to launch the service due to its excellent cycling network, promotion of electric vehicles and one of the pioneers of car-sharing. (Modo, the car-sharing co-op, was founded in 1997.) Eventually the company hopes to expand throughout the Pacific Northwest and to cities where car-sharing is already popular.

Stonier believes the Veemo presents another option to reduce pollution, reduce car congestion and to get people more active.

"These types of zero emissions, healthy, high-tech activities are how to create a livable city of the future," he said.

Only time will tell whether Veemos will take off, but with politicians buzzing about action on climate change Stonier is optimistic local politicians and residents will give it a chance.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau (left) checks out the three-wheeled, battery-powered Veemo with VeloMetro CTO Kody Baker. Company CEO John Stonier (right) is hopeful that Vancouverites will adopt the zero-emission vehicles. MATTHEW CHEN/CONTRIBUTED

THINK BIG. LIVE LOCAL

VANCOUVER TRENDING

THE BUSINESS OF ZERO WASTE

Enthusiastically talking trash

Amy Logan
For Metro | Vancouver

A shopper scoops bulk granola into a recyclable glass container.
COURTESY AMANDA PALMER

Brianne Miller, founder of Zero Waste Foods, left, with Heather McIntosh, right, has a chat with shopper Frances Robertson at the pop-up Zero Waste Market. On right, jars of bulk food can be found on Zero Waste Market shelves.
PHOTOS COURTESY AMANDA PALMER

The town of Kamikatsu, Japan, may offer a template for Vancouver's goal of decreasing waste.

The town's 1,700 residents sort their trash into 34 different categories. The town has no incinerator and 80 per cent of the garbage is recycled.

They are aiming for 100 per cent by 2020.

By comparison, Vancouver aims for a 50 per cent reduction of solid waste by 2020 (from 2008 levels).

Vancouver Coun. Andrea Reimer said litter in the city is an exponentially increasing problem, but the city's waste diversion goals are proving successful. The food scraps program, for instance, is widely praised, and other cities are beginning to look to Vancouver's strategy as a "green plan for a world city," Reimer said.

Several Vancouver businesses have adopted a zero waste policy of their own accord, and the city's eco-friendly consumers seem to be on board.

Co-founded by Brianne Miller and Paula Amiama, Zero Waste Market is Canada's first 100 per cent package-free grocery store. With a background in marine biology, Miller said she has "seen firsthand the devastating impacts of our food system has on the oceans."

Focusing on local, organic, and ethically sourced foods, the market enables customers to bring their own refillable containers for bulk dry goods and other groceries.

With plans to launch a brick-and-mortar store by the end of this year, they have been hosting monthly pop-up shops at Patagonia (1994 West 4th Ave.) since October.

Miller said they are excited to see the zero waste movement growing and estimate that they have already prevented almost 1,000 containers from entering the landfill.

In North Vancouver, Bridge Brewing has a 99 per cent waste-free business. They mill their own grain and compost it when done, wash their caps so they can be reused, sell mostly glass growlers, and even lend out glasses with their kegs in order to reduce the use of plastic cups.

On a larger scale, Vancouver's Mattress Recycling (mattressrecycling.ca) is Western Canada's first and biggest mattress recycling company. To date, they've recycled over 350,000 mattresses.

Fiercely environmental, they recycle more than 90 per cent of each mattress. Owner Fabio Scaldaferri began the business in 2008, and since then, it has become a world leader in mattress recycling.

Other than the foam, all materials extracted at the depot are recycled locally, with wood becoming fuel or mulch, plastics turning into bottles, and cotton into upholstery.

Reimer noted it's challenging to convince small, local businesses to adopt a zero waste policy, but she also pointed out that Vancouver companies are largely environmentally minded.

Businesses who work toward such policies are "pioneering certainty," offering concrete examples of how eco-friendly companies can prosper while staying true to their values.

FOOD NOTES

NOT YOUR AVERAGE SALAD SHOP

Erin Ireland
Metro | Vancouver

Vancouver's downtown core is dense with lunch options from sushi to sandwich shops. But how many are truly exciting, offering well-sourced, chef-designed meals served in a space that accentuates the dining experience? Not many...

Enter Field & Social, the sparkly new salad shop near Dunsmuir and Homer. Born of a shared vision between lifelong friends Stephen Collins and Moe Samieian, this 30-seater, fast-casual restaurant offers healthy, generously portioned lunches to fill the void in this genre.

The Black Kale Caesar at Field & Social. ERIN IRELAND/FOR METRO

Choose from their eight unique menu items, in a stunner of a dining room designed with marble counters, wooden communal tables, rough concrete posts and copper accent lighting. Consulting chef Jacob Deacon-Evans (formerly of Wildebeest) will keep things fresh by introducing new salads each season. The current menu excites with completely original salads like the Sen Lek Smoked Tofu (with rice noodles and roasted hazelnut sauce), the Naan O Sabzi (with marinated Persian cucumber and torn flatbread) and Black Kale Caesar (with grilled romaine and smoked paprika croutons). Some are lighter than others, but the portions are generous.

Do not miss the delightfully tart, lightly sweetened (with agave) house-made lemonade that's mixed with kombucha on tap from Kitsilano's o5 Tea.

Field & Social is open for lunch from Monday to Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with online ordering launching in April.

Field & Social features a menu designed in consultation with chef Jacob Deacon-Evans. ERIN IRELAND/FOR METRO

Whistler gets new art museum

CULTURE

Venue to showcase largest Emily Carr collection

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

Michael Audain at the Audain Art Museum in Whistler. Admission to the museum will cost $18, but children 16 and under get in free. BOB FRID/AUDAIN ART MUSEUM

A new museum nestled in the woods is hoping to attract visitors to Whistler for more than just a good powder day.

The Audain Art Museum featuring the private collection of Vancouver developer and philanthropist Michael Audain and his wife Yoshiko Karasawa opened its doors to media on Thursday in advance of its grand opening on March 12.

Located on a forested lot near the village leased from the municipality for $100 for 199 years, the museum showcases world-class art including creations by local First Nations artists and the largest collection of Emily Carr paintings.

"It feels marvellous being able to open the doors," Audain said in an interview. "The Whistler people have been so receptive and so welcoming."

Audain and Karasawa chose the forested site as the home for their impressive art collection because much of their artwork relates to the British Columbia landscape.

"We didn't want to be in just another building on the street," Audain said.

> **We didn't want to be in just another building on the street.**
> Michael Audain

He hopes that the collection augments Whistler's cultural facilities and gives international visitors "an inkling of how we are as a people on the West Coast."

"It is hopefully a contribution to broadening Whistler's appeal as a four-season resort," he said. "It will be another reason to come up the beautiful Sea to Sky Highway."

Audain first announced his intentions to build a Whistler museum in 2012.

His new museum (estimated at $30 million) comes as the Vancouver Art Gallery tries to raise millions to relocate to a larger space.

Approximately 2.7 million people visit Whistler annually, according to Tourism Whistler.

To start, the Audain Art Museum hopes to attract 10 per cent of those visitors to the museum, according to the executive director.

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IN BRIEF

Police investigation of missing person uncovers human remains

Police investigating a missing-person case in Delta, B.C., have found human remains.

Officers found the remains Thursday at an unoccupied residence on the Tsawwassen First Nation.

Acting Sgt. Sarah Swallow says the investigation into a missing a 33-year-old man from nearby Surrey lead them to the property.

Police say a detailed forensic analysis will be needed to confirm the person's identity and the cause of death.

The force is treating the investigation as suspicious.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C. allows 'sneaky' hike to post-secondary fees: NDP

The Opposition New Democrats say post-secondary students in British Columbia are being hit with "sneaky" fee hikes above the province's two per cent cap on tuition.

Advanced education critic Kathy Corrigan says colleges and universities are levying hundreds of dollars in extra fees on students with government approval despite a cap.

Corrigan accuses Advanced Education Minister Andrew Wilkinson of turning a blind eye to the recent increases, suggesting his ministry advises post-secondary institutions on ways to introduce new fees.

Wilkinson says his ministry monitors fee increases at post-secondary institutions, adding the schools can charge extra fees beyond the tuition cap for new programs and services.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A pilot taxis a WestJet Boeing 737-700 plane to a gate after arriving at Vancouver International Airport in Richmond in February 2014. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

WestJet sued over alleged groping

COURT

Former flight attendant says airline failed to take action

A former flight attendant is taking WestJet to court, accusing the airline of failing to take proper action after she said she was sexually assaulted by a pilot and then was allegedly fired for asking how the company responded to her complaint.

Documents filed this week in B.C. Supreme Court describe how Mandalena Lewis was on a stopover in Hawaii in January 2010 when an unnamed WestJet pilot allegedly pulled her onto a hotel bed and proceeded to kiss and grope her.

"(Lewis) was terrified," reads a statement of claim filed in the case. "She resisted physically, yelling that he stop. ... In her panic, (she) managed to leverage her legs into a position where she was physically able to kick out and push (the pilot) off her."

After returning to her room, the document says: "She vomited, cried, attempted to calm herself without success and barely slept."

The court document says after the alleged incident was reported, the Calgary-based company changed Lewis's work schedule to avoid overlap with the pilot, which left her with fewer working hours. It also alleges that she was instructed to keep quiet out of respect for the pilot's privacy.

> **WestJet's conduct has been negligent.**
> Statement of claim

Lewis's lawyer, Sean Hern, said his client has consented to her name being made public.

None of the allegations have been proven in court and WestJet has not filed a statement of defence.

In an email, the company says it doesn't comment on ongoing legal proceedings but adds that it intends to defend itself against the lawsuit.

The company says it takes seriously its commitment to ensuring a safe and harassment-free environment for both its employees and passengers.

Lewis was fired earlier this year for "insubordination," but the court document alleges the reason for her dismissal was Lewis's repeated requests to view her employee file in order to learn what the company had done about her complaint.

"WestJet's conduct has been negligent, retaliatory, unlawful and unacceptable," reads the statement of claim.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SEXUAL ASSAULTS

RCMP issues warning

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

Mounties in Burnaby have issued a public warning after a woman was attacked and groped while walking alone early Tuesday, the third such incident in recent weeks.

The latest assault happened just before 2 a.m. on Springer Avenue between Georgia Street and Francis Street, according to Burnaby RCMP.

The woman, who is from Burnaby, was walking home from a Hastings Street bus stop when an unknown man approached her from behind, place a hand over her mouth, pulled her toward the bushes and attempted to grope her, police said.

When the woman screamed and fought to free herself, her attacker fled northbound on Springer Avenue across Frances Street, police said.

Police said the assault is the second incident involving groping in this area in the past month. On Feb. 18, a woman was also sexually assaulted while walking along the busy Burnaby Mountain Urban Trail.

Police said investigators cannot say definitely if the incidents are linked.

However, police are asking the people to remain vigilant, especially when walking alone at night.

DESCRIPTION

The attacker is described as white, at least five-foot-eight, with a medium build. He was wearing dark clothing and a dark hooded jacket. METRO

FINAL RELEASE!

VARSITY
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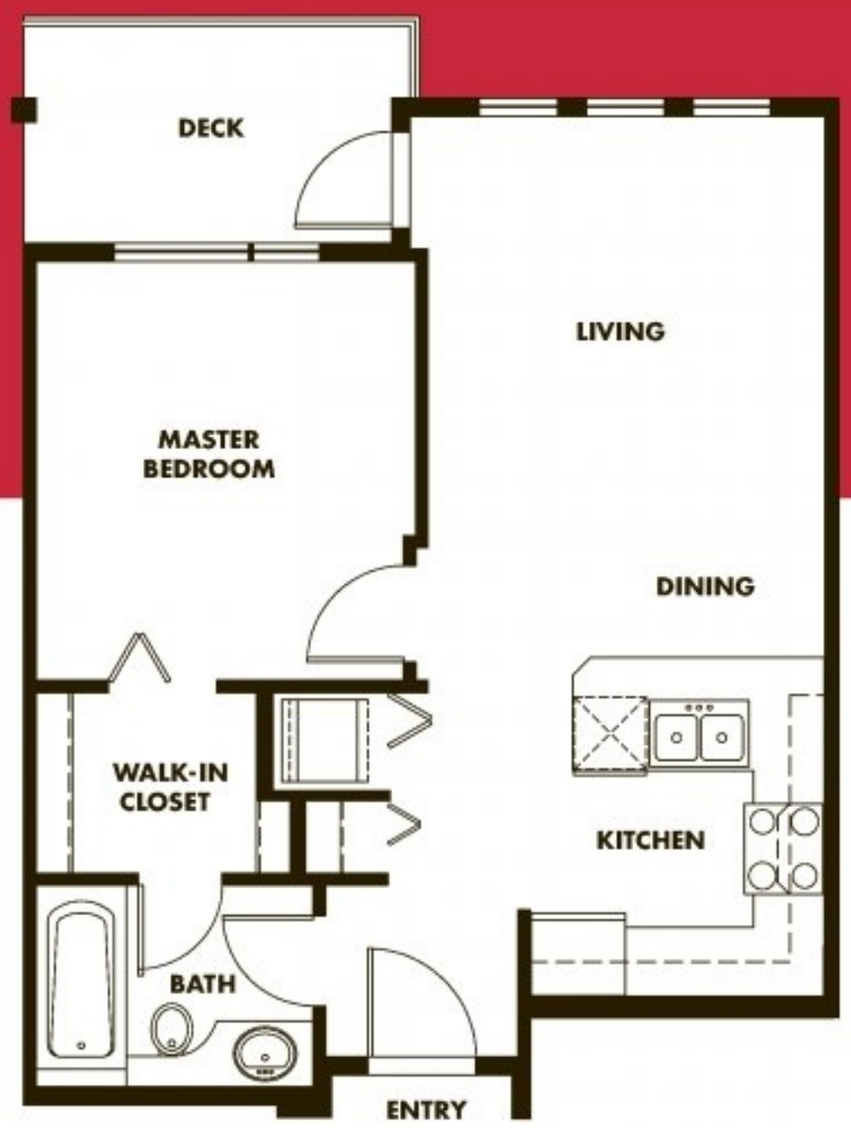

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RENNIE

Carbon pricing accord

CLIMATE CHANGE

Ministers in agreement, with regional adaptations

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Canada's premiers have agreed that carbon pricing will be part of any national plan to address climate change.

He said they will study pricing options that would be adapted to the specific circumstances of each province and territory.

The working group is one of four announced by Trudeau in Vancouver on Thursday after a day-long climate-change meeting with first ministers.

Trudeau said they are to meet again in the fall when the working groups are to report back.

"The commitment we made today, with the Vancouver Declaration, shows all first ministers in this country united on carbon pricing mechanisms," he said.

"The fact that we have consensus on the need to include carbon pricing in our approach to addressing climate change right across the country is a great thing indeed."

He added he's happy there's a plan to move forward while respecting regional differences.

"The working group that we have put together will dig into the mechanisms that will be most effective and most appropriate for each jurisdiction, recognizing that there are areas that face greater challenges."

The federal government has been quietly insisting for weeks that a national carbon price, as promised in the Liberal election platform, will be imposed from above if provinces are unable to agree. The day started with several premiers pushing back against that federal resolve.

Nova Scotia Premier Stephen McNeil suggested there was "more than one way to deal with the carbon issue."

He said Atlantic Canada's heavy spending on hydro-electric transmission has effectively already built in a carbon price with electricity rates that are the highest in Canada.

Yukon Premier Darrell Pasloski said he and his fellow territorial premiers are against imposing additional costs on consumers of fossil fuels in the North.

Brad Wall of Saskatchewan came to Vancouver warning against a carbon tax in a fragile Canadian economy, but cleared the air Wednesday by saying his province would participate "constructively" in any working groups. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau leads Canada's premiers to a news conference during the First Ministers Meeting in Vancouver on Thursday. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MANITOBA

Manitoba Premier Greg Selinger, who faces re-election this spring, said there's a common understanding among premiers that action on climate change can and should take many paths. "The do-nothing option is not there," he said.

BORDER

Police project delayed

A Canada-U.S. initiative to create new, cross-border law-enforcement teams has been "postponed" due to unresolved concerns about how to treat police officers accused of breaking the law.

The so-called next-generation border project has been put off as discussions continue with U.S. officials — almost four years after pilot projects were supposed to begin, said Staff Sgt. Julie Gagnon, a force spokeswoman.

The initiative — part of the 2011 Canada-U.S. perimeter security pact — would see the two countries build on joint border-policing efforts by creating integrated teams in areas such as intelligence and criminal investigations.

Two pilot projects were supposed to get underway by summer 2012.

But in 2013, it emerged that the effort was being held up by the difficult question of which country's legal system would apply if a police officer were accused of breaking the law.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MADAGASCAR

Veterinarian learning to protect lemurs

Meg Crane
For Metro

A Malagasy veterinarian is in Winnipeg to get first-hand surgery training in hopes of sparing native wildlife, like lemurs, from being decimated by stray animals in her home country.

"In school, you get next to no practical training," said Winnipeg veterinarian Jonas Watson about vet training in Madagascar.

Watson, of Tuxedo Animal Hospital, is one of the vets behind Mad Dog Initiative, an organization that goes to Madagascar to trap, spay or neuter and then release stray cats and dogs.

An overpopulation of strays on the island has wreaked havoc on native wildlife, said Watson, thanks in part to a lack of practical veterinary training to keep pet populations down.

In order to help Malagasy vets get that training, they're brought to Canada to learn surgery in a Canadian clinic.

On Feb. 26, vet Tsiky Rajaonarivelo left Madagascar for the first time and made the 30-hour flight to Winnipeg where she's working with about a dozen different vets, including at the clinic at the Assiniboine Park Zoo. She's currently at Birchwood Animal Hospital.

"It's pretty different from what I know in my country because there are just lots of machines (here)," Rajaonarivelo said. "When we do the surgery in Madagascar ... we don't have the (same equipment.)"

Although the mechanics are different, she said she's learning things that she'll be able to use in her practice when she returns.

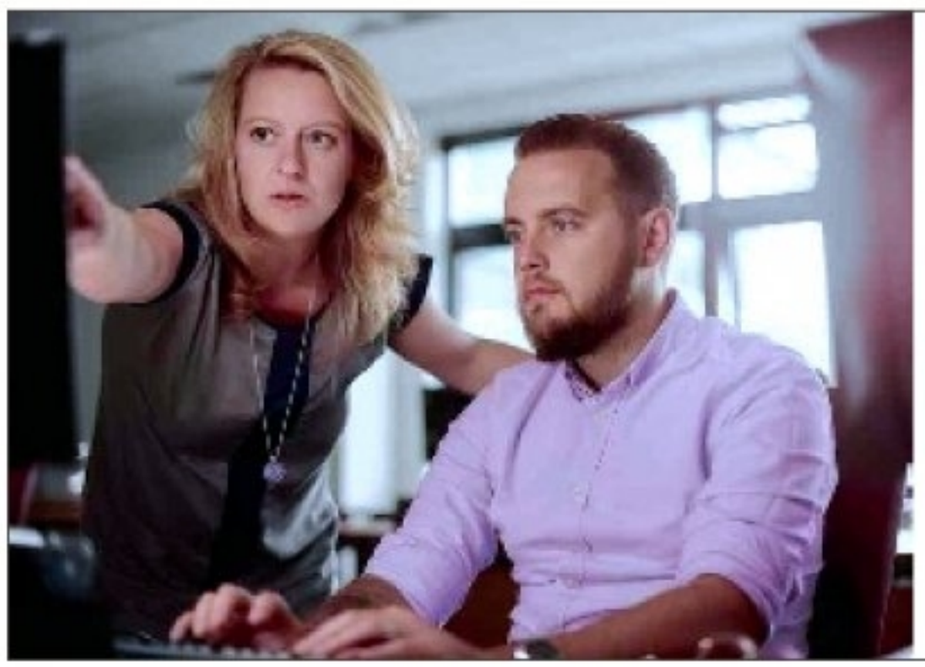
Next summer, Rajaonarivelo will be leading Mad Dog's spay and neuter project in Madagascar.

She said Mad Dog is accepting donations of hospital supplies, such as gauze, for the project.

The non-profit paid for her to come to Winnipeg, so financial donations are being accepted to offset those costs, Watson said.

"I went there thinking we were going there to help dogs and help protect wildlife," said Watson. But the most rewarding part has been helping the people there, such as Rajaonarivelo, by giving them opportunities.

Tsiky Rajaonarivelo with Birchwood resident cat, Harvey.
MEG CANE/FOR METRO



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Trump blasted by McCain, Romney

POLITICS

Ex-presidential nominees urge GOP to shun frontrunner

The Republican's most recent presidential nominees, Mitt Romney and John McCain, lambasted current front-runner Donald Trump on Thursday, calling him unfit for office and a danger for the nation, in an extraordinary show of intra-party chaos.

"His is not the temperament of a stable, thoughtful leader," Romney declared.

He called Trump "a phoney" who is "playing the American public for suckers," a man whose "imagination must not be married to real power."

Hours later, Trump lashed back, calling Romney "a choke artist" who lost to Barack Obama four years ago only because he was such a poor candidate.

Mitt Romney, left, spoke about Donald Trump, right, calling him a fraud and arguing against his nomination, a sentiment Sen. John McCain agreed with. GETTY IMAGES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The vicious feud marked a near-unprecedented scenario pitting the Republican Party's most prominent leaders, past and present, against each other as Democrats begin to unite around Hillary Clinton. Underlying the clash is a bleak reality for panicking Republican officials. Beyond harsh words, there is little they see to stop Trump's march toward the presidential nomination.

Party leaders are poring over complicated delegate math, outlining hazy scenarios for a contested national convention and even flirting with the idea of a third-party effort.

Romney confidant Ron Kaufman, a senior member of the Republican National Committee, openly embraced the possibility of a contested convention: "If that's the only way to stop Trump, it makes sense," he said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TALKING BACK

Kelly prepares for debate
All eyes were on Megyn Kelly and Donald Trump during Fox News Channel's Republican presidential debate on Thursday. She said she prepared the same "tough but fair" questions for him as she does for other candidates.

Kelly and Trump clashed during the first GOP debate last summer. Trump then boycotted a debate that Fox telecast.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

REFUGEE CRISIS

Mass deportation of migrants considered

Turkey is under growing pressure to consider a major escalation in migrant deportations from Greece, a top European Union official said Thursday, amid preparations for a highly anticipated summit of EU and Turkish leaders next week.

European Council President Donald Tusk ended a six-nation tour of migration crisis countries in Turkey, where 850,000 migrants and refugees left last year for Greek islands.

"We agree that the refugee flows still remain far too high," Tusk said after meeting Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu.

"To many in Europe, the most promising method seems to be a fast and large-scale mechanism to ship back irregular migrants arriving in Greece. It would effectively break the business model of the smugglers."

Tusk was careful to single out illegal economic migrants for possible deportation, not asylum-seekers. And he wasn't clear who would actually carry out the expulsions.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

American finds possible Flight MH370 debris
An American adventurer named Blaine Gibson said that he discovered part of an aircraft on a sandbar off the coast of Mozambique.

The debris could be from the Malaysia Airlines flight that disappeared two years ago with 239 people aboard.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cholera kills dozens every month in Haiti
Cholera, which arrived in Haiti in October 2010, has sickened more than 770,000 people and killed more than 9,200.

So far this year, it has sickened more than 6,000 and is killing an average of 37 people a month.
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Festivals feel loonie's pinch

ECONOMY

Music and arts events booking more Canadian performers

The Toronto Sketch Comedy Festival has recruited some notable American names in the past, including Saturday Night Live star Kate McKinnon and writer-actor Michael Ian Black.

But this year it will be an exclusively Canadian event for a reason that's no laughing matter: The low loonie means the fest can't afford to book international talent.

This year's lineup is all homegrown and a bit more eclectic than usual, with names including Rush guitarist Alex Lifeson and Dave Bidini of the Rheostatics, along with comedians Gavin Crawford, Jessica Holmes and Sean Cullen.

They may be household names on this side of the border, but the festival isn't expecting to sell as many tickets as in previous years.

"I think we probably will not," says Paul Snepsts, executive director of the event, which kicked off Thursday.

"That's not because of a lack of talent in this country. It just seems, and I think this is true in music as well as comedy, that we have a tendency to be prone to buying into something once it has achieved success elsewhere."

Some other arts festivals are also grappling with the weak dollar.

"We're feeling it somewhat," says Josh Grossman, artistic director of the TD Toronto Jazz Festival, which showcases talent from around the world.

Grossman says he's heard organizers of other festivals say the loonie is also affecting their approach to programming.

He expects his festival may have to raise some ticket prices "a little bit."

"It's hard to say exactly, but a show that we might have been able to sell for $25 last year is maybe going to be $30 this year, that sort of thing," he says.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FIRST VICTIM

Squamish Valley Music Festival cancelled

B.C.'s Squamish Valley Music Festival, which takes place in August, has officially been cancelled for 2016. Squamish Mayor Patricia Heintzman said organizers told her it was a "business decision," which she suspects was likely influenced by the low Canadian dollar.

METRO

Janneke Coenen dances at the Squamish Valley Music Festival in August last year. The festival has been cancelled for 2016, and Squamish Mayor Patricia Heintzman suspects the dollar influenced that decision. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

IN BRIEF

Warmer ocean points to boom in lobster catch

Scientists with the Gulf of Maine Research Institute predict this year's lobster season will get rolling two or three weeks early as warming ocean temperatures prompt lobsters to move inshore.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Google joins the Zika fight

Google is donating $1 million US to fight the spread of the Zika virus and is building a platform to process weather and travel data to predict where it will hit next.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Your essential daily news
SCIENCE FRIDAYS

Stress and grief can trigger heart trouble. A new study shows joyous events like becoming a grandparent can break your heart too.

DECODED

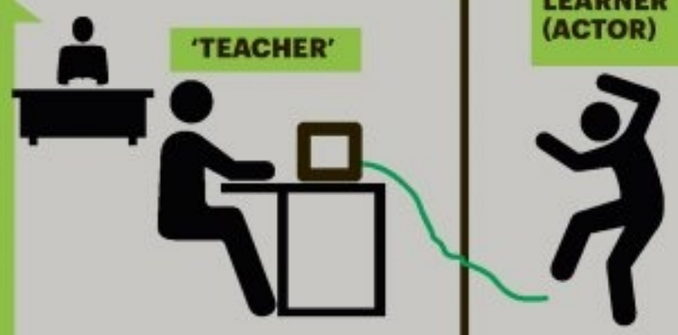
'Just following orders'

That was the catchphrase of the **Milgram experiments**, some of the most infamous studies in the history of science. In the 1960s, psychologist Stanley Milgram believed he'd proven regular people could be easily convinced to inflict what they thought was a painful, or even deadly, electric shock on somebody if they were ordered to by an authority figure. He said it was a profound insight into the minds of perpetrators of atrocities like the Holocaust. But reputable science must be replicable. And the Milgram experiments, which required that researchers tell people to harm others, were so ethically problematic there was really no way to repeat them in a modern lab. But now, someone has tried.

The original Milgram experiments

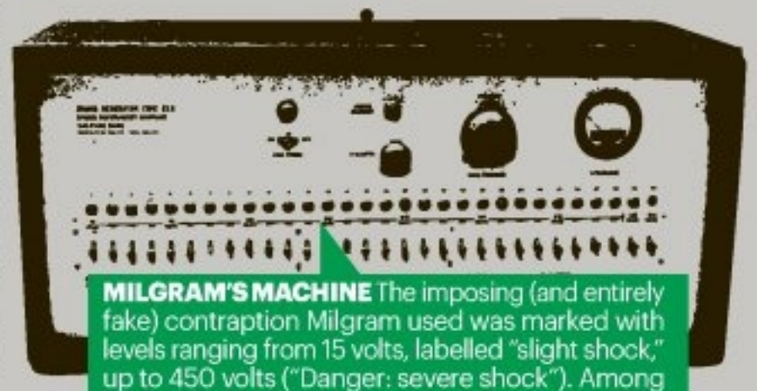
Stanley Milgram, 1963

EXPERIMENTER
As the "shocks" and screams got more intense, the lab assistant delivered lines from a script if participants started to express doubts. First "Please continue," then "The experiment requires that you continue," then "It is absolutely essential that you continue" and finally "You have no other choice, you must go on."



STUDY TITLE: BEHAVIOURAL STUDY OF OBEDIENCE

Method: The volunteer research subject, called "the teacher," read a list of words for "the learner," an actor who was hooked up to a (fake) shock machine in another room, out of sight. If the learner made a mistake repeating the words, the teacher was instructed to deliver ever-stronger electric shocks. Prerecorded screams were played, and just before the highest shock was to be given, the learner fell silent. **Result:** In one experiment, 65 per cent of "teachers" obeyed all orders, right up to the end.

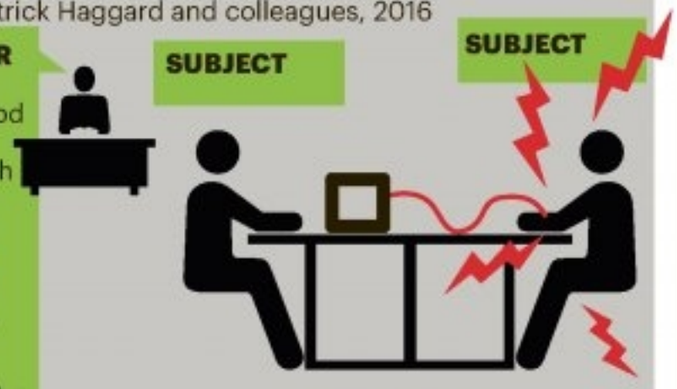


MILGRAM'S MACHINE The imposing (and entirely fake) contraption Milgram used was marked with levels ranging from 15 volts, labelled "slight shock," up to 450 volts ("Danger: severe shock"). Among his hundreds of human guinea pigs, many later reported either discomfort or confusion, but a few suffered more serious effects — even, allegedly, a heart attack and in another case seizures. At least one expert has even argued what Milgram did meets the definition of torture under international law.

A modern Milgram

Patrick Haggard and colleagues, 2016

EXPERIMENTER
In one study, an experimenter stood over the subject and told her which key to press — a little nudge that proved to have a clear impact on subjects' actions. In another, the experimenter looked away and let the subjects decide for themselves.



STUDY TITLE: COERCION CHANGES THE SENSE OF AGENCY IN THE HUMAN BRAIN

Method: This experiment had no element of secrecy. The research subjects sat across from each other with a keyboard between them with two keys: One delivered a painful (but not dangerous) electric shock, while the other did nothing. Some subjects were told to deliver shocks (sometimes earning a small financial reward), and others were given free choice as to whether to deliver them or not. **Result:** The research subjects who were ordered by the lab assistant to deliver shocks were significantly more likely to do so.

The late Staney Milgram is an authority, albeit an extremely controversial one, in the world of psychology.

The average social psychology textbook devotes eight pages to his work, and interest in it is growing exponentially.

The question of why good, or at least normal, people sometimes do others harm has eternal appeal. It's easy to see why: If we understand that, couldn't we understand, for example, why some children are bullies, or why some people become terrorists?

Investigating that question is more complicated than it seems, says St. Thomas University psychology professor Ian Nicholson, a critic of Milgram-style experiments old and new.

"Milgram came out of an era — which hasn't completely ended — where there was a dream of being able to develop a level of exactitude toward human nature akin to the certainty we have in the natural sciences," Nicholson says. "We'd know definitively why people become bad."

Drawing conclusions about the Holocaust from people's behaviour in a lab is a logical leap too far, he argues.

Unlike research subjects, perpetrators of atrocities knew exactly what they were doing, and believed it was right. And that's the key distinction, Nicholson says.

He likens Milgram's lab to an "unusual space" like a magician's stage. You might be asked to volunteer to take a saw to someone, and it might be socially acceptable to do it. But that wouldn't make you an axe murderer. Everyone knows "Kooky, goofy, weird stuff goes on" in psych labs, he says, and people "roll with it."

In the Milgram 2.0 experiments, there was no deception. Participants knew they were dishing out real pain, and they continued. Author Patrick Haggard told Nature, "Your sense of responsibility is reduced whenever someone orders you to do something."

Still, this took place in a lab. It's hard to make a case, Nicholson says, that the results are "generalizable." What he suggests instead is less electrifying: Consult historical records, and if you want to understand people who've done horrible things, talk to them.

FASCINATING FINDS OF THE WEEK

ATTRACTIVE IDEA
For years, techies have dreamt of Magnetic Random Access Memory, a data-storage method so sturdy that in-progress essays would survive power outages; so efficient, phone batteries would last days. Until now the method (which involves reversing the spin of electrons) required a huge blast of electricity. But Dutch researchers have found a workaround: bending the electric current with a sort of anti-magnet.

FOR THE GATOR GOOD
Nesting birds in the Everglades tend to live near alligators' lairs. The reptiles are handy bodyguards against racoons and other predators who like to snatch eggs and chicks. Now there's new evidence, published in the journal PLOS One, of why alligators dig this arrangement. Wading birds lay more eggs than they can raise, and they get rid of extra chicks by pushing them out of the nest. Alligators snack on the surplus.

SOUND SMART

A hypothesis, now confirmed, for why island coasts are more biodiverse than open oceans: Currents around islands dredge up nutrient-rich water that nourishes phytoplankton, which provide food for invertebrates and fish, which attract sea birds — and presto! Coral reef.

Citizen Scientist

Should I try cutting wheat, dairy or eggs out of my child's diet?

QUESTION

My four-year-old gets frequent tummy aches. Other parents swear by eliminating irritating foods — wheat, dairy, eggs, etc. Does that actually work? Andrea in Halifax

Dear Andrea,

I can't address your child's issues from here in Toronto, and also I'm not a health professional. Get thee to your family doctor! Not Dr. Google. The dietary-advice industry is a duck pond: It's full of quacks.

To your question: Yes, elimination diets (i.e. dairy-free) have their place for children with an allergy (diagnosed by a doctor, usually with a skin test), or an intolerance (such as lactose intolerance and others).

A study out of Umeå University in Sweden this week looked at food allergies and parent-identified hypersensitivities in 2,585 seven- and eight-year-olds. Just 0.6 per cent showed evidence of reactions to at least one basic food (milk, eggs, fish or wheat). But eight times as many had parents who *said* they were allergic to one of those things. Years later, many of the kids were still on restricted diets, though the majority had either outgrown their allergy or intolerance (many do), or never had it in the first place.

Dieticians will tell you growing kids should enjoy a variety of foods. Without a good medical reason, they'd rarely advise cutting a whole category like dairy, which for all its faults is rich in calcium and protein.

Science question? Email scene@metronews.ca

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MOVIES MUSIC TELEVISION GOSSIP

Gerard Butler: The actor we love to hate

Gerard Butler is looking to redeem his bad movie rap with London Has Fallen, which opens this weekend. CONTRIBUTED

ANALYSIS

Good looks, acting chops and bad movie role choices

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Last week as I fought traffic en route to a London Has Fallen screening, I tweeted from the back of a cab, "Out of my way people! I'm running late for a Gerard Butler movie!" It was a silly little joke, a comment to kill time as we idled in the morning rush hour.

The first response came in right away: "said no one, ever," followed by a torrent of unexpected Butler hate.

One person called him a "bouncer actor," whatever that means.

Another questioned his ability to effectively disguise his native Scottish accent and many people offered me their condolences.

Why the Butler bashing?

It's true he is a frustrating movie star. He shares the usual leading man traits that have made Brad Pitt and Leonardo DiCaprio superstars.

He's handsome, talented and built like an action star but he's been done in time after time by poor choices.

Pitt makes Fight Club, Butler makes Law Abiding Citizen. Leo stars in The Departed, Gerard does Machine Gun Preacher. Years ago the website Gawker placed Butler on movie star probation, calling him a "professional bad decision maker" alongside notable career fritterers Cuba Gooding Jr. and John Travolta. A look at his IMDB page suggests they were on to something.

He's a utility player, comfortable switching genres the way most of us change our socks. One minute he's a romantic comedy star, the next he's choking out bad guys on screen. He's flirted with Shakespeare and provided voices for cartoons.

He's done sci-fi flicks, musicals and even a rendering of the Anglo-Saxon epic poem Beowulf.

It's not like he hasn't enjoyed some very big hits. In 300 he (and his meticulously crafted six-pack) played King Leonidas, a Spartan who led 300 soldiers against the might of the Persian army.

It's the film equivalent of a heavy metal concert — loud, brutal and completely uncompromising — and it made him an action hero.

People have a soft spot for Dear Frankie, his breakout film and the one that turned him into a heartthrob with serious dramatic chops. The four-hankie U.K. tear-jerker about a single mother who resorts to trickery to keep the memory of her late husband alive in her son's mind put Butler on the world stage.

Other box office bonanzas include playing a charming mobster in the violent Guy Ritchie flick RocknRolla and voicing Viking Stoick the Vast in How to Train Your Dragon.

It's the other stuff that seems to rub people the wrong way. As a movie reviewer I can attest there are few English language words more terrifying than "New Gerard Butler Romantic Comedy" and I think it is those films that turned my Twitter followers against him.

He's a good actor but his track record in the rom-com department is particularly grim.

Critics hate these movies, calling the handsome Scottish actor's attempts at mixing love and comedy, "instantly grating," and "embarrassingly limited."

But I come to praise Butler, not to bury him. Let's give him another chance.

I made it to the London Has Fallen screening and can tell you it's a pretty good action movie. Perhaps even good enough to erase the memory of The Ugly Truth or Playing for Keeps from our collective memories.

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Zootopia	★★★★
London Has Fallen	★★★
Whiskey Tango Foxtrot	★★★
The Legend of Barney Thomson	★★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★ SEE IT
★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

Zootopia: The man behind the mammals

INTERVIEW

Canadian animator rising through ranks at Disney

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Disney animator Trent Correy may be an Ottawa native, but three years of living and working in Burbank, Calif., have changed him.

"I get home about once or twice a year now," he says. "It's hard to go in the winter, my body has adapted to here. I tend to send my parents photos of me on the beach in February when it is -42 C back home. I have flip flops on now while we're talking just to turn the knife a little bit."

Ironically the sun worshipper's breakout was helping to animate the snowman Olaf in Frozen. You've also seen his handiwork in Big Hero 6 and this weekend he's back with the furry and funny film Zootopia.

"The nice part of Zootopia was working with a number of different characters," says the Algonquin College graduate. "I worked with everything from a mouse to a sloth to an elephant. It kept the job very interesting."

Set in an alternate universe where animals, both predator and prey, live harmoniously in a city called Zootopia, the movie's funniest sequence involves a slow moving sloth named Flash. It was the first scene Correy helped animate. "There are a lot of challenges animating a sloth moving at that speed," he says, "and a lot of other challenges animating a mouse or an elephant with their different weights and animal attributes."

The 28-year-old is a rising star at Disney — he's currently working on the mythological epic Moana — so it might come as a surprise that he didn't take art in high school.

"I failed art," he admits. "It was totally my fault. I wasn't into the art history stuff at the time and I was really interested in drawing cartoons. That was looked upon as not real art so the teacher and myself had disagreements. I ended up having to take drama, and that's fun too.

"I did always love to draw. I have to thank my mom, who is an artist, who encouraged me to draw and keep going."

He rediscovered his passion for art after high school and now joins the rather long and impressive list of Canadians who are helping to shape the future of animation. I ask him why Canadians are so in demand as animators.

"There is a rich history of animation in Canada with the NFB and a lot of TV work in the '80s and '90s," he says. "I think a lot of it has to do with work ethic. I tend to see a lot of people who come from TV animation who are faster. They have to be because they get paid per frame in a lot of places in Canada, whereas here it's salary. So to make your money you have to be fast, you have to be efficient and you have to be economical in your choices.

"Our whole crew here is very international, we have people from all over the world. I think there is a bit of, 'I'm coming from a different country and I'm trying to prove myself in this big place.' It feels so far away from Ottawa."

LISTINGS WHERE TO CATCH ZOOTOPIA IN THEATRES

Bunny officer Judy Hopps has 48 hours to crack a case in Zootopia. ALL PHOTOS HANDOUTS

Park & Tilford (333 Brooksbank Ave.) Fri 6:40-7:10-9:20-9:50 Sat 10:15-11:10-12:50-1:50-3:30-4:30-6:10-7:10-8:50-9:50 Sun 11:10-12:50-1:50-3:30-4:30-6:10-7:10-8:50-9:50 Mon 6:30-7-9-9:30 Tues 4-4:30-6:30-7-9-9:30 Wed 6:30-7-9-9:30 Thurs 1-6:30-7-9-9:30

SilverCity Riverport (14211 Entertainment Way) Fri 11:45-2:20-5-7:40-10:20 IMAX 1:20-4-6:40-9:20 Sat 11:45-2:20-5-7:40-10:20 IMAX 10:45-11:15-1:20-4-6:40-9:20 Sun 11:45-2:20-5-7:40-10:20 IMAX 1:20-4-6:40-9:20 Mon 2:20-5-7:40-10:20 IMAX 1:20-4-6:40-9:20 Tues 11:45:2:20-5-7:40-10:20 IMAX 1:20-4-6:40-9:20 Wed 2:20-5-7:40-10:20 IMAX 1:20-4-6:40-9:20 Thurs 2:20-5 IMAX 1:20-4-6:40-7:40-9:20-10:20

SilverCity Metropolis (4700 Kingsway Ave.) Fri 11:45-1:20-2:20-4-5-6:40-7:35-9:20-10:10 Sat 10:30-11:45-1:20-2:20-4-5-6:40-7:35-9:20-10:10 Sun 11:45-1:20-2:20-4-5-6:40-7:35-9:20-10:10 Mon-Thurs 1:20-2:20-4-5-6:40-7:35-9:20-10:10

SilverCity Coquitlam (170 Schoolhouse St.) Fri 11:40-12:40-2:20-3:40-5-6:40-7:40-9:40-10:25 Sat 11-11:40-12:40-2:20-3:40-5-6:40-7:40-9:40-10:25 Sun 11:40-12:40-2:20-3:405-6:40-7:40-9:40-10:25 Mon 1:05-1:35-4-4:30-7-7:35-9:45-10:15 Tues 11:40-12:40-2:20-3:40-5-6:40-7:40-9:40-10:25 Wed 1-1:05-4-4:30-7-7:35-9:45-10:15

Strawberry Hill Grande (12161-72nd Ave., Surrey) Fri 1:20-2:20-4-5-6:40-7:40-9:20-10:20 Sat 11:40-1:20-2:20-4-5-6:40-7:40-9:20-10:20 Sun 11:50-1:20-2:20-4-5-6:40-7:40-9:20-10:20 Mon-Tues 1:20-2:20-4-5-6:40-7:40-9:20-10:20 Wed 1-2:20-4-5-6:40-7:40-9:20-10:20 Thurs 1:20-2:20-4-5-6:40-7:40-9:20-10:20

Studio 12 Guildford (15051-101st Ave., Surrey) Fri 12:15-12:25-1:15-3:15-3:45-4:15-6:45-7:15-9:45-10 Sat 10-10:15-10:30-12:15-12:45-1:15-3:15-3:45-4:15-6:45-7:15-9:45-10 Sun-Thurs 12:15-12:25-1:15-3:15-3:45-4:15-6:45-7:15-9:45-10

Criterion 4 White Rock (2381 King George Highway) Fri 4:20-6:40-9 Sat-Sun 2-4:20-6:40-9 Mon-Thurs 4:20-6:40-9:00

Colossus Langley (20090-91A Ave.) Fri 2:20-5-7:40-10:20 IMAX 1:20-4-6:40-9:20 Sat 11:40-2:20-5-7:40-10:20 IMAX 10:40-1:20-4-6:40-9:20 Sun 11:40-2:20-5-7:40-10:20 IMAX 1:20-4-6:40-9:20 Mon 5-7:40-10:20 IMAX 4-6:40-9:20 Tues 2:20-5-7:40-10:20 IMAX 1:20-4-6:40-9:20 Wed 5-7:40-10:20 IMAX 4-6:40-9:20 Thurs 5 IMAX 4-6:40-7:40-9:20-10:20

SCREEN TIMES ACCURATE AS OF NOON ON THRUSDAY, MARCH 3. CHECK THEATRES FOR ANY SCHEDULE CHANGES

ZOOTOPIA

Moosebridge 'has more hair than I do'

Good things happen to Peter Mansbridge at airports.

Back in 1968, the veteran news anchor was a 19-year-old ticket agent working in an airport in Churchill, Man., when a CBC station manager heard his booming voice over the airport PA system. The random "audition" led to Mansbridge being hired to host the local CBC station's late-night music program. News jobs in Winnipeg, Saskatchewan and Ottawa followed before the London-native replaced Knowlton Nash in 1988 as sole anchor for CBC's The National.

Flash forward several decades. Mansbridge was at Toronto's Pearson International Airport on his way to Vancouver.

"I was going through the security line," he says, "and the guy behind me said, 'Hey, you're Peter Mansbridge, right? I'm with Disney and I just came out of a meeting where we were talking about trying to get you involved in an animated feature we're doing.'"

"Sure, you're from Disney," thought Mansbridge. Nevertheless, they exchanged business cards. "Very soon after I got an email and it was clear he really was from Disney."

The offer was for Mansbridge to provide the voice of news anchor Peter Moosebridge in Zootopia. The Disney animated feature is about a brave little bunny who helps clean up crime in a big city full of animals.

A few things had to be worked out before Mansbridge could answer his moose call. Outside work is a sensitive issue at CBC and the job had to be vetted.

"We take our journalism seriously," says Mansbridge. "We don't want our journalism to be seen in a light that doesn't reflect well upon the series."

This was, however, Disney, not South Park. As Mansbridge notes, CBC has carried Disney's flagship TV series since the '50s.

Besides, as he says, the part was hardly a stretch. "They just wanted my voice — they didn't want me to try and act like a moose."

Different if the character had been a weasel. A moose? Now that's Canadian. "It doesn't look like me." Mansbridge adds. "It has more hair than I do." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mansbridge (left), anchor for CBC's The National, lends his voice to a moose in Zootopia. HANDOUT PHOTO

THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN

Knowing that Downton was soon to end, I got curious. Have Anna and Bates found happiness at long last?

When Downton Abbey concludes on March 6, there's little chance the series finale will abruptly cut to black, followed by excruciating silence, leaving loyal fans wondering if Lord Grantham got whacked. It would be preposterous — and not only because David Chase already did that back in 2007 when he ended The Sopranos but also because Downton's creator Julian Fellowes knows his fans: they would not tolerate an ambiguous ending whose meaning (like Chase's) could be debated for eternity. They want a happy conclusion, preferably bow-tied by the likes of Mr. Carson.

Over six seasons, the British drama has chronicled the lives lived both upstairs and downstairs in the Georgian-era country home. Simon and I used to watch Downton together. But when plots started to approximate soap operas as in both length and content — Anna and Mr. Bates have to be two of the unluckiest characters ever on TV — no amount of tea cups, gorgeous Edwardian costuming and posh accents could help make the show feel more than a guilty pleasure. We tuned out.

But knowing that Downton was soon to end, I got curious. What has Mrs. Patmore been cooking up in the kitchen? Did Lady Sybil come back from the dead? Have Anna and Bates found happiness at long last? So I read some episode recaps, skipped straight ahead to Season 6, and breathed a sigh of relief to see that the Dowager Countess, played by Dame Maggie Smith, hadn't lost her penchant for acerbic aphorisms.

THE SERIES: Downton Abbey

THE MEAL: An alone-time dinner

It looks like Thomas Barrow, "the most consistent plotter of nefarious schemes for nearly all six seasons of the show," as Vulture recently put it, may have atoned for past sins and be redeemed. And yes, there are still over-the-top sensational moments: in Episode 5 Lord Grantham's ulcer takes a turn for the worse and he literally starts spewing blood from his mouth during dinner.

But I did my catching up solo: Simon refused to return to Downton. So on Sunday night I'll tune in with an alone-time dinner. That's what I call a meal I'd never make for anyone else but me; simple food you'd be embarrassed to serve — even to your judgement-free partner — on account of it not approximating what most of us think of as dinner. For me, this is a green salad with thin slices of raw, red onion, some tangy goat cheese and a lemon dressing served alongside a big fat piece of baguette with butter and a crisp, dry white wine.

I already know how I want Downton to end. Imagine we flash forward to today when tour groups are being lead through the seemingly endless rooms by the current owners. They make their money by opening up the home; is a bit of meta realism considering this is how most of England's great country estates survive today — including Highclere Castle which doubles as Downton. A little boy on the tour notices a photo on the wall of Lady Mary. 'What happened to her?' he will ask. The new Lord will explain, and so on so forth, until the sepia-toned portraits of a vanished era have yielded lives fully lived. "All life is a series of problems which we must try and solve, first one and then the next and then the next," as the Dowager said, "until at last we die."

But I'm not holding my breath.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

DO A 'W' TAKE

After six seasons, people get it: The name is Downton Abbey. Not 'Downtown' Abbey. So why not a less risky title for the series? Julian Fellowes explains:

"I have always been rather an admirer of my great-grandfather, Professor John Wrightson, 1840-1916, who was an experimental agriculturalist.

"His eldest brother, Sir Thomas Wrightson, Bart., of Neasham Hall in Yorkshire, had done great things in the world of steel and their aunt was married to Lord Armstrong, the British Krupp of armaments, but John was more interested in farming.

"He had an estate in Wiltshire called Charford Manor and I thought of calling the series 'Charford Abbey,' but we decided it was too near Cranford, and so we settled on 'Downton' after Downton College of Agriculture which Wrightson founded in 1880 and which, for a quarter of a century, was at the forefront of agricultural innovation."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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NASA photos of the moon are on display at the U.S. National Air and Space Museum

Thousands of years on ice

ATLANTIC CANADA

Newfoundland's Iceberg Alley is full of great white wonder

Nature's frozen carvings drift through Iceberg Alley each spring and summer but early arrivals near Newfoundland's eastern shores have already lit up social media.

Eric Abbott did a double take in mid-January when he first saw a giant slab off Elliston, N.L. Since then, his photos of it and another water-sculpted berg off the pretty coastal town of Bonavista have drawn admirers from around the province and beyond.

"Most of the time I've seen them in March or April," he said in an interview. "There's people saying 'Eric, you think they'll be there in March month?' I say: 'My darling, the one in Elliston is grounded, it's only shifting back and forth. I allow it'll be there in August.'"

Many Newfoundlanders who posted photos of an iceberg spotted in mid-February off Signal Hill in St. John's said it's the earliest they can remember big ice showing up.

Byron Briggs, superintendent of Atlantic region ice operations for the Canadian Coast Guard, said it's not unusual to have icebergs off Newfoundland's east coast this time of year.

"The difference being this time, some of them are close enough to shore for people to see. In 2014 there were definitely more bergs than there are now, but most of them were about 100 miles off."

Only ships out to sea would have caught a glimpse, Briggs said in an interview. Icebergs have to be within about 20 kilometres of shore to be visible from land, he added.

Gabrielle McGrath, commander of the United States Coast Guard International Ice Patrol, has done recent surveillance flights over the region. The patrol was formed after the Titanic disaster in 1912, and works with Canadian partners to track icebergs in North Atlantic shipping lanes.

More than 20 bergs have so far been spotted in those lanes and many more originating from Greenland glaciers are heading south, McGrath said in an interview.

"It's hard to give a prediction exactly, but I think there is a potential to have a decent amount of icebergs this year."

McGrath said an interesting weather pattern of cold and warm spells combined with storm systems help explain a few things. "Some of the bergs have been pushed onshore maybe a little earlier than they would in the past."

Icebergs photographed close to Newfoundland and Labrador coastlines in past years have reached 45 metres in height while long, flat tabular giants have been estimated at five kilometres in length or more. Waves mould them into spectacular shapes that resemble cathedrals, pyramids and glass archways streaked with blue — and sometimes running with waterfalls. They are believed to be at least 12,000-year-old specimens of pure water.

Cecil Stockley, owner and operator of Iceberg Man tours in Twillingate on Newfoundland's northeast coast, takes groups out starting in May. In recent years he has hosted visitors from across North and Central America and as far away as Russia, China and Japan. "They come looking for icebergs.," he said.

To avoid disappointment, Stockley urges tourists to check in with local operators before they make the trip.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

An iceberg near Bonavista, N.L. on Feb. 13. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IF YOU GO

For tips on travel to Newfoundland and Labrador go to newfoundlandlabrador.com

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TIPS

How to save a bundle on spring break vacation

This year, spring break will be a tricky affair for some, with the school break at some schools coinciding with an early Easter weekend. But travel experts have a few insider tips on how to save a few bucks for your winter getaway.

According to analysts at flight tracker Hopper, the best days to book a flight are Monday to Wednesdays, when flyers can save up to 25 per cent on their airfare, compared to flights scheduled for Thursday to Saturdays.

And though tempting, budget-conscious travellers are advised to forget Friday departures, which are the most expensive.

Here are a few other tips:

Keeping a few tips in mind will help you save and have fun over spring break. ISTOCK

Spring break shoulder

If you can, try booking a trip in early March or late April to avoid the most expensive times to travel.

March Breaks that spill over to Easter are, predictably, the most expensive, posting a 45 per cent premium. The week of March 23, and April 6 are the second and third most expensive weeks.

Book now

The longer you wait, the more expensive the flight will be.

How much more? Booking less than two weeks in advance adds 33 per cent to the ticket price. Booking within three days? That will cost you 66 per cent more.

Monitor prices

In addition to the Hopper app which predicts drops in airfare, other flight tracking apps and sites include Airfare Watchdog, Skyscanner, Momondo and Google Flights.

It may also be worth signing up for alerts to low-budget airlines such as JetBlue, EasyJet, AirAsia, Ryanair, and the newest players on the block, Norwegian Air and WOW Air, which have been selling transatlantic one-way airfares for as little as $99 U.S.

AFP

TRAVEL NOTES OUTSIDER ART, CAMPER VANS, CACTUS LEAGUE

Outsider art museum opens in The Netherlands

A museum of outsider art is opening March 17 as part of the Hermitage Amsterdam in the Netherlands. Outsider art is art created by self-taught artists, unknowns and others outside the art establishment. It is also variously referred to as folk art, art brut and raw art. The new venture is a project of the Het Dolhuys in Haarlem, a museum of psychiatry, in partnership with other organizations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Hermitage Amsterdam will feature a museum of outsider art. ISTOCK

Company rents out VW campers

Planning a road trip in a camper? Consider a set of old-school wheels. A Seattle-based company, Peace Vans Rentals, has fully restored Volkswagen camper vans, all Westfalia models built between 1987 and 1991. They sleep up to four adults and come with a built-in stove, sink and storage space. Included with the rental are cookware, utensils and headlamps, and a French press.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Peace Van Rentals has restored old-school campers. HANDOUT

Behold the Cactus League games

Arizona is getting ready for spring training season. Fifteen Major League Baseball teams play around the Phoenix metropolitan area as part of what's called the Cactus League. Spring training in Arizona has been a tradition since the 1940s when the Cleveland Indians and the New York Giants were the only teams that practiced there. The games run through April 2 in advance of MLB's opening day, April 3.

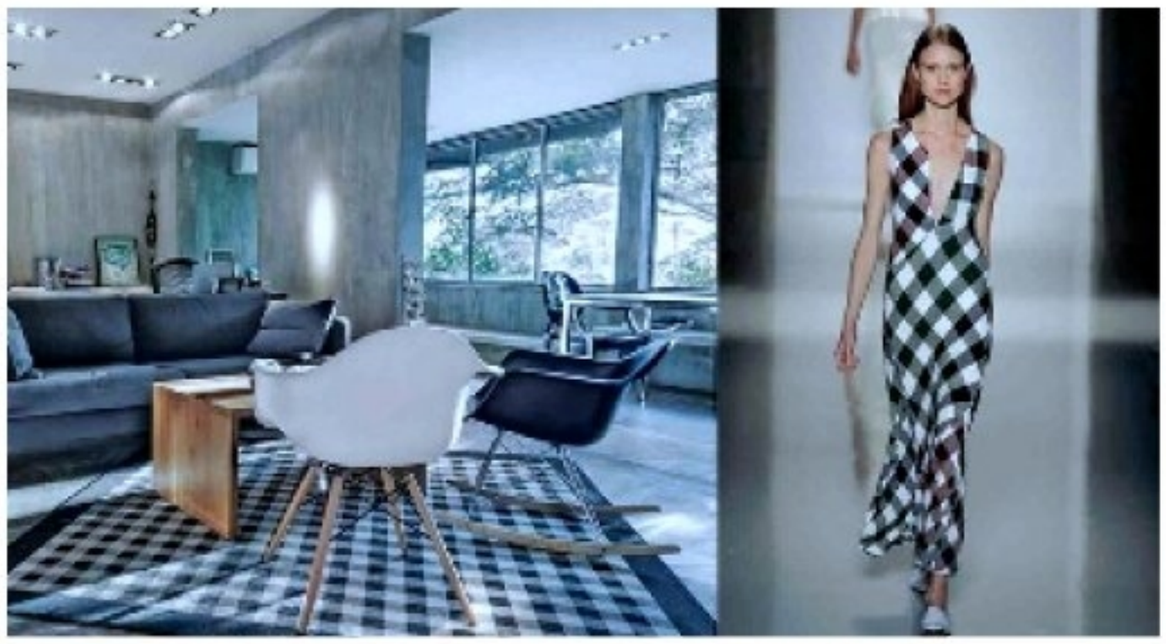
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yu Darvish at training. FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Vancouver departures. Applicable for new bookings only. March Inventory Clearout sale is a limited time sale. Travel FX card is applicable on new bookings only made from March 5th , 2016 to March 28th , 2016. Must travel between March 5, 2016 and October 31, 2016 (inclusive).Minimum purchase $795 (before taxes) per person based on double occupancy. Receive a Travel FX Mastercard with the equivalent of $80 Canadian credit in either Pesos, US Dollars, Pounds or Euros. Maximum 1 (one) card per booking regardless of total purchase amount. Minimum purchase $595 (before taxes) per person based on double occupancy. Receive a Travel FX Mastercard with the equivalent of $40 Canadian credit in either Pesos, US Dollars, Pounds or Euros. Maximum 1 (one) card per booking regardless of total purchase amount. Not applicable to children rates. Group bookings do not qualify. This promotion may end without notice. Booking must be paid in full in order to receive the Travel FX Mastercard. Not applicable to flight only purchases. Upon final payment, lead passenger will receive an email with instructions on how to activate and receive their card. The applicable promotional code will be valid for 1 (one) transaction/redemption. Please allow a minimum of 10 business days for the delivery of the card from the time you activate your card. Please note that you will be required to answer standard identity verification questions to activate your card. For full terms and conditions visit SellOffVacations.com or call 1-877-SellOff (735-5633). All above prices are per person based on double occupancy for 7 nights on all-inclusive vacations (unless otherwise specified).All transportation taxes and related fees must be prepaid. Local taxes payable at the destination are extra (if applicable). Promotions are subject to change and can be withdrawn at any time without prior notice. In flight service varies according to flight times. While all reasonable efforts are taken to ensure the accuracy of the information in the ad, SellOffVacations.com accepts no responsibility for actions, errors and omissions arising from the reader's use of this information howsoever caused. SellOffVacations.com, a division of Sunwing Vacations Inc., 27 Fasken Drive, Toronto, Ontario Canada M9W 1K6. TICO Reg. # 4276176 British Columbia license #39606 Quebec Permit # 702928

STAY MATCH YOUR DRESS WITH WHERE YOU REST

Can't bear to clash with the carpet? Airbnb has an apartment for that. For fashionistas who are sticklers for coordination, Airbnb has rounded up a list of fabulous rentals that match designer decor with fashion weeks around the globe. AFP



ALL PHOTOS AFP

Pretty in plaid

To go with a flowey, vichy-checked dress from the Victoria Beckham 2016 spring/summer collection, there's a loft in Bangkok where a black and white checkered carpet offsets an industrial, slate grey loft.

Bohemian like you

Is your style more Bohemian princess, à la Manish Arora's spring/summer collection? When in the south of France, look up a gypsy caravan decked out in unapologetically bold turquoises, bright fuschias and shabby chic patterns that match the boho chic ethos.

Stripes and stripes forever

But if you're more of a minimalist, à la Alice and Olivia's black and white-striped pant suit, there's an Osaka rental that will match the outfit perfectly, with its stark monochromatic décor: striped walls, zebra head, clean and minimal lines.

metro SPORTS

"Yeah, I don't care": LeBron James' reaction to those who are upset about his recent visit with Dwyane Wade in Miami

OUT FOR REVENGE The Canucks' Henrik Sedin lays a hit on the Sharks' Logan Couture at Rogers Arena on Thursday night. The Canucks entered Thursday having lost their last two games, one of which was a 4-1 setback to the Sharks on Sunday. For the story, go to metronews.ca. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canucks eager to sign prospect Tryamkin

NHL

Six-foot-eight defenceman's KHL contract expires in April

Cam Tucker
Metro | Vancouver

Now that Nikita Tryamkin's KHL season is over, his next stop in the hockey landscape could be Vancouver.

He's big, a towering presence on the blue-line and the Canucks are in the process of trying to get him signed to an entry-level contract, with his existing deal with Yekaterinburg Avtomobilist set to expire later this spring.

The Canucks drafted Tryamkin in the third round, 66th overall, in 2014.

Jim Benning, prior to getting hired in Vancouver, scouted Tryamkin while he played for Russia at the world juniors that year.

As they try to sign the 21-year-old Tryamkin, management is faced with a couple issues.

His contract in the KHL doesn't expire until April 30, so there is a task of figuring out how Tryamkin can get out of that existing deal before he can sign in Vancouver.

When it comes to cap space — the Canucks had $2.14 million available as of Thursday, according to General Fanager — Benning said the organization should have a better idea of that next week when they get updated medical reports on injured defenceman Alex Edler (broken fibula) and Brandon Sutter (broken jaw, and currently on the long-term injured reserve).

84

Tryamkin led all blue-liners on his KHL club this season with 84 hits.

Provided that all goes according to plan and the Canucks can get him under contract before the end of this season, Tryamkin would then report to Vancouver.

Tryamkin is coming off his most productive season as a KHL defenceman.

He finished with a career-best 11 points in 53 regular-season games. He scored four goals — all of them coming at even strength. He also led his fellow Yekaterinburg blue-liners with 84 hits.

Nikita Tryamkin GETTY IMAGES FILE

"He's unique because of his size," said Benning in a phone interview.

"He's co-ordinated and he's a very good skater. Because at (six-foot-eight), you have that long reach, he can defend. He's got a big wing span to defend and when he gets the puck, he can make a good first pass and get it going the other way."

Benning has Tryamkin developing into a stay-at-home defenceman capable of transitioning the puck.

And with his massive frame comes a booming shot.

"Sometimes he doesn't always know where it's going," said Benning.

"But he's got a heavy, hard shot."

IN BRIEF

Lightning beat Sens for eighth straight victory

Ben Bishop made 33 saves and Ondrej Palat scored the winner as the Tampa Bay Lightning defeated the Ottawa Senators 4-1 Thursday night.

Cedric Paquette, Nikita Kucherov and Steven Stamkos — into an empty net — also scored for Tampa (38-22-4). The Lightning, who wrapped up a four-game road trip, have now won eight straight, tying a franchise record.

Marc Methot scored the lone goal for the Senators (30-28-7). THE CANADIAN PRESS

Floyd returns to help Blue Jays take down Pirates

Finally healthy after a three-year battle with injuries, right-hander Gavin Floyd turned in a solid start for the Toronto Blue Jays on Thursday in a 10-8 win against the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Justin Smoak hit a towering solo home run for the Blue Jays. The ball rode a light breeze and cleared the concourse in right-centre field. Floyd worked two innings and gave up one run on two hits. He walked one and struck out two. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drogba to miss action with knee injury

Montreal Impact striker Didier Drogba will miss Sunday's regular-season opener against the Vancouver Whitecaps because of ongoing knee problems linked to artificial turf.

Drogba is also expected to be out for the Impact's first home game on March 12. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada blanks Guatemala to begin U17 championship

Jayde Riviere was one of three scorers as Canada earned a 3-0 win over Guatemala on Thursday at the opening day of the CONCACAF women's under-17 championship.

Sarah Stratigakis and Vital Kats also scored in the Canadian victory, while goalkeeper Lysianne Proulx earned the clean sheet.

Canada plays Grenada on Saturday and Haiti on Monday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

5 REASONS MLS IS ON THE RISE

With hot topics like expansion and labour negotiations taken care of in 2015, soccer itself is set to take the spotlight. Coupled with the Copa America in June and the Olympics in August, MLS is expecting one of the biggest summer's ever for the sport in North America. Here are some of the storylines heading into the domestic league competition:

1 Timbers' title has nice timbre to it

It seemed inevitable that an MLS Cup champion would eventually come from the soccer-crazed Pacific Northwest.

The Timbers capped their run to the title by beating Columbus 2-1 in the final last December and immediately drew the ire of their bigger-spending, bigger-stadium rivals to the north in Seattle.

And Portland could be just as good again, retaining the majority of its key pieces from the title run.

2 East beasts

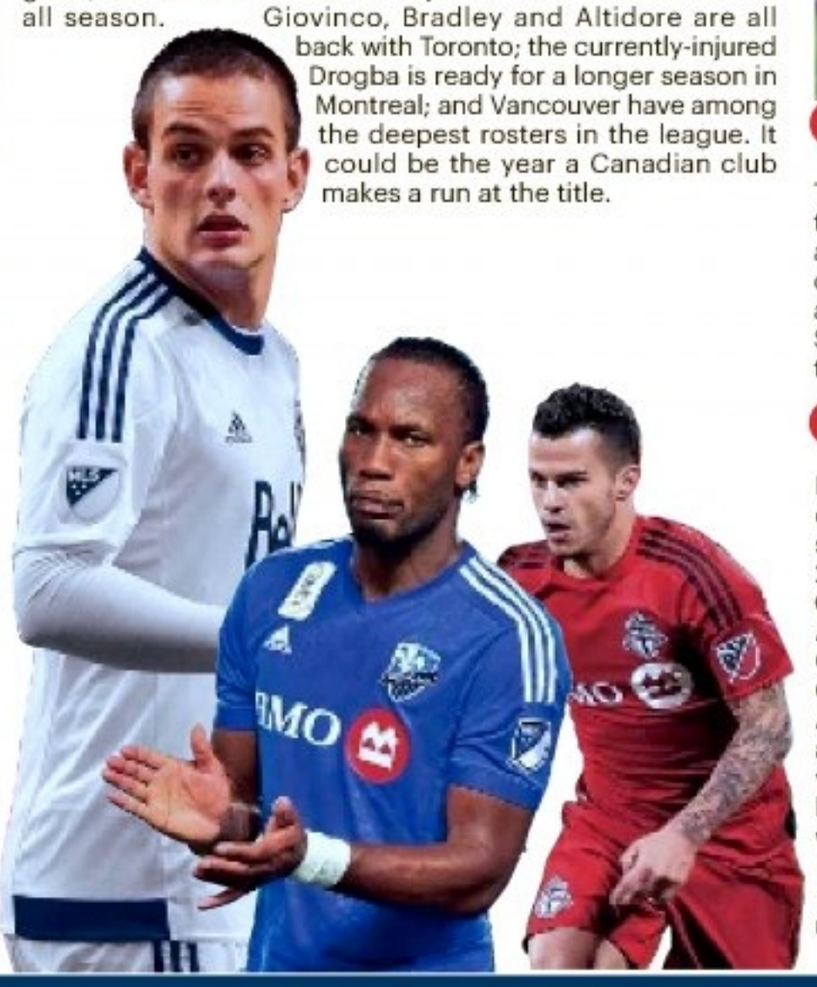
New York Red Bulls put together a masterful run last season to win the Supporters' Shield before getting bounced in the playoffs by Columbus. The Red Bulls return very much intact while many other teams in the East have questions to answer.

Toronto and Montreal may be ready to rise, and New England, led by **Lee Nguyen**, could be the type of team to jump from fifth to the top of the conference.

3 Northern touch

The three Canadian clubs could all be among the best this season. Toronto finally made the playoffs in 2015 thanks to league MVP **Sebastian Giovinco** and American standouts Michael Bradley and Jozy Altidore. Montreal welcomed **Didier Drogba** into the fold during the summer and made a powerful late run into the post-season. And led by **Octavio Rivero's** 10 goals, Vancouver was near the top of the Western Conference all season.

Giovinco, Bradley and Altidore are all back with Toronto; the currently-injured Drogba is ready for a longer season in Montreal; and Vancouver have among the deepest rosters in the league. It could be the year a Canadian club makes a run at the title.



4 Western shootout

The Western Conference again appears to be significantly deeper than the East. Consider that Portland may be the fifth- or sixth-best team at the beginning of the season. Vancouver could end up being the class, but young FC Dallas is only going to get better with experience after nearly making the MLS Cup final. Led by **Benny Feilhaber**, Sporting Kansas City may have the best midfield in the league, and the talent in Seattle's starting 11 can rival anyone's.

5 New arrivals

MLS again was able to tap into overseas leagues to bring in some notable names for the 2016 season including **Ashley Cole** and Nigel de Jong in Los Angeles; Antonio Nocerino at Orlando City; and Shkelzen Gashi in Colorado. The biggest American moves were an arrival and a departure. Red Bulls saw young defender Matt Miazga leave for Chelsea, but Seattle was able to convince Jordan Morris to stay at home and sign with the Sounders. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

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RECIPE Protein Pancakes with Cottage Cheese

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

If you love breakfast for dinner (it's our favourite) then prepare to have your mind blown. These pancakes deliver, wait for it, a nice dose of protein thank you to the addition of cottage cheese. Also, did we mention they are pancakes?

Ready in
Prep time: 5 minutes
Total time: 30 minutes
Makes 6 pancakes

Ingredients
- 1 cup whole wheat flour
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/4 tsp fine sea salt
- 1/4 tsp cinnamon
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup low-fat cottage cheese
- 3/4 cup low-fat milk
- 2 Tbsp vegetable oil
- Butter for pan

Directions
1. In a large mixing bowl, stir together the flour, baking soda, sea salt and cinnamon.
2. In a separate bowl, whisk the eggs, cottage cheese, milk and oil.
3. Add the egg mixture to the flour and whisk until just combined.
4. Heat a large skillet or griddle over medium high heat and then toss in a pat of butter. Working in batches, form each pancake by pouring about 1/4 cup of batter into the pan. Cook pancakes until they are golden brown and bubbles break on the surface; then flip. Allow to cook through, about another minute. Serve with either maple syrup or a spoonful of Greek yogurt and honey.

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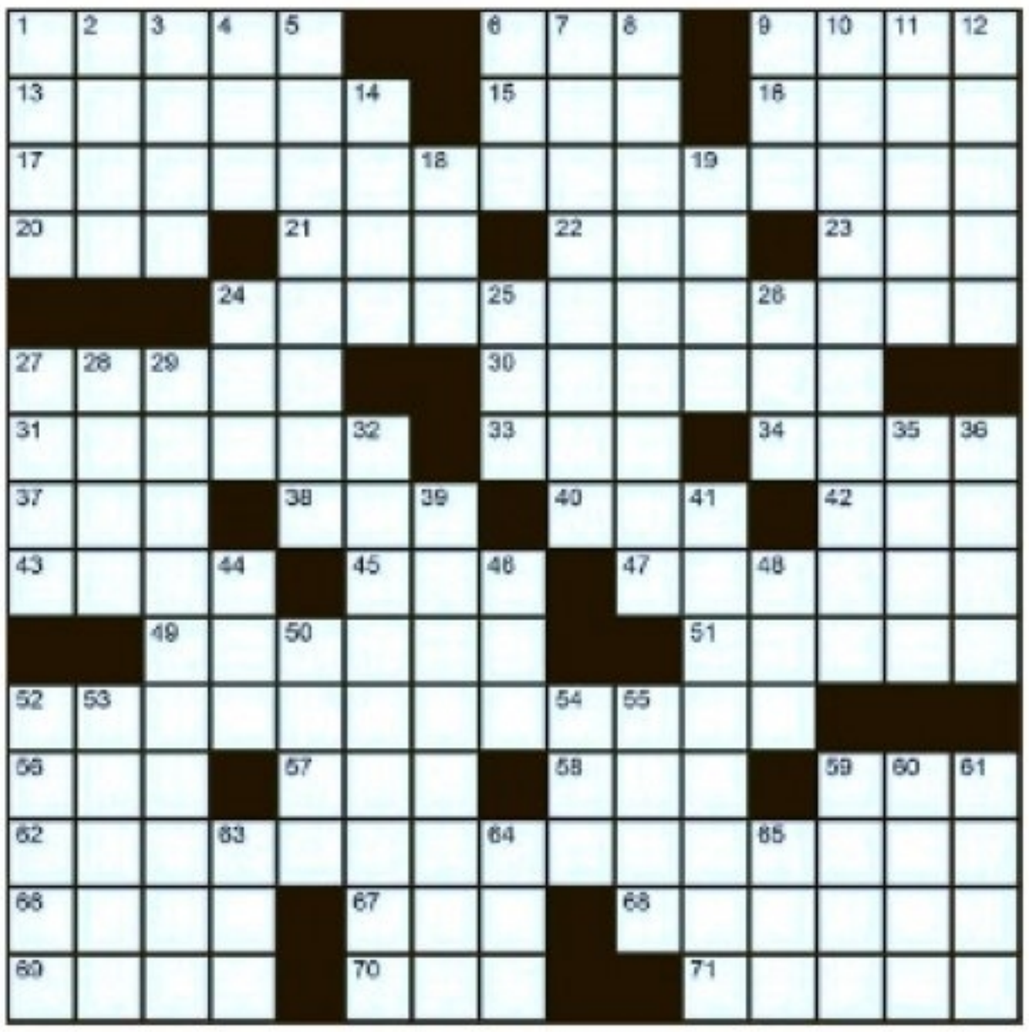
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. A. _ & Co. Productions (Company-with-a-Canadian-co-founder behind the show at #52-Across)
6. Soul: French
9. Disapproves
13. Couch potato's dinner table: 2 wds.
15. Mr. Brooks
16. Juice berry
17. Canadian Forces... Meritorious Service Cross and General Campaign Star: 2 wds.
20. Poetic contraction
21. Sing-y syllable
22. Vintage record label
23. "_ Mir Bist Du Schon" by The Andrews Sisters
24. Popular palettes in interior decor now: 2 wds.
27. Gladiator's 553
30. RSVP 'yes'
31. Country singer Lee Ann
33. Avril's Sk8er's gender
34. Window part
37. Bon _ (High society)
38. Kit _
40. 'Proto' suffix (Amoebae, and kin)
42. Compete
43. Predicament
45. Wee weekday
47. LA Dodgers division: acr. + wd.
49. _ and tribulations
51. Ms. Flynn Boyle's
52. As per #1-Across... Culinary reality show for Chef Gordon Ramsay: 2 wds.
56. 'Human' suffix
57. European peak
58. Demure
59. Trendy
62. Really cold temperature: 3 wds.
66. Spa service, _-pedi
67. Position
68. Savoured
69. Belonging to London's wee country
70. ER pros
71. Alison Moyet's "Don't Go" duo

DOWN
1. Bank _.
2. Ancient 1007
3. "_ cost ya!"
4. Prefix to 'angle'
5. Magical feat for Wayne Gretzky: 2 wds.
6. Ms. Poehler
7. Television doctor: 2 wds.
8. Public speaking strength
9. Universal ideal
10. One admiring a coral reef at great depth: 2 wds.
11. R.U.R. playwright
Mr. Capek
12. Oui ouis ...in Barcelona: 2 wds.
14. Lively
18. Mr. Liotta
19. Mr. Berkus
24. Angelina Jolie role
25. Capture
26. Ward workers, wee-ly
27. Tom Bergeron hosts it [acronym]
28. Ribbon bow part
29. "Hey, that's the truth!": 3 wds.
32. 'Of Ghosts and Gods' metal band from Montreal
35. Ms. Kudrow
36. Allows
39. Where a gardener might plant bulbs: 2 wds.
41. Back street
44. Li'l old MTV show
46. Ballpark fig.
48. Pallid
50. Time _ _ a premium
52. Player's call in blackjack: 2 wds.
53. Mr. Hawke
54. Nero's 250
55. Laugh-a-minute
59. "Eraser" Canadian noise/punk band
60. Nabisco's famous treat
61. Extinct bird of Mauritius
63. '_' _ for Rimouski
64. Sci-Fi movie extras
65. Ms. Gabor, for short

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
An offer may seem attractive but don't commit yourself too quickly. Consider the pros and cons before deciding whether or not it is the right move for you. Opportunities are like buses — there will always be another.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Be on your guard when dealing with people one-to-one. You may not be the sort who gives your trust too easily but some people can be very persuasive. Don't let them sway you.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Why are you so defensive? Every time someone says something you take it as a personal slight. You're overreacting but this phase won't last long. You'll forget about it soon.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You are tired from the constant running around you've been doing but you're also pleased by the progress you've made. You'll make more progress today if you slow down and concentrate on one specific aim.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Some of the changes taking place may not be to your liking but there is nothing you can do about them. You know that, sooner or later, everything works out for the best.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You won't let anyone coerce you into doing things you don't approve of. Now extend your protection to those who cannot look after themselves. Take them under your wing.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Be on your toes where anything of a financial nature is concerned. There is little doubt you will succeed but you will also attract people who think they can get rich at your expense.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You seem to be constantly on the go, no doubt due to Mars, planet of ego and energy, in your birth sign. But even a Scorpio has limits, so slow down and focus on essentials.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Mistakes are a fact of life but if you find yourself making the same mistake over and over you can be sure that something's wrong. The world won't change for you, so you must change in response to the world.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Go all out to make a good impression on those you live and work with today. Creatively and romantically this is a great time for you and if you believe that you deserve to be lucky and loved then you will be.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If you find it hard to live within your means that is a sign you're doing too many things for too many people — and paying too much for the privilege. How many of your "friends" really care for you? Be ruthless today.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
No matter how tough the challenge, you will pass with flying colours. You are endowed with the kind of self-belief that can move mountains.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

4			3	8				
	3				2			8
8	2				1	6		
		8				3	1	
		6		9		4		
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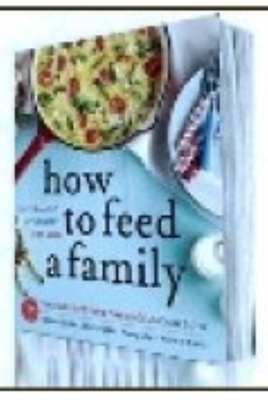

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9	6	3	7	4	1	5	2	8
2	8	4	5	9	6	3	1	7
5	1	7	8	2	3	9	4	6
3	7	9	1	8	4	2	6	5
6	4	2	3	7	5	1	8	9
8	5	1	9	6	2	4	7	3
7	2	8	4	5	9	6	3	1
1	9	6	2	3	7	8	5	4
4	3	5	6	1	8	7	9	2

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